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Federal trade commission law. (Washington: Lowdermilk. 1914. Pp. 42. 50c.)

State regulation of public utilities. (Philadelphia: Am. Acad. Pol. & Soc. Sci. 1914. Pp. 300. \$1.)

Labor and Labor Organizations

The Occupational Diseases. Their Causation, Symptoms, Treatment, and Prevention. By W. GILMAN THOMPSON. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1914. Pp. xxvi, 724, illus. \$6.00.)

Increasing demand for information upon industrial hygiene and occupational diseases in America has resulted in the appearance of this work. It is written by a prominent medical authority and is the first comprehensive book upon the subject to be published in this country.

It is of textbook type, with 118 excellent illustrations. There are 160 pages devoted to a general discussion of pathology, etiology, prophylaxis, and treatment, after which the author classifies the various diseases due to irritant substances according to his well-known scheme under such headings as (1) metals, (2) gases, (3) fluids, (4) dusts, (5) germs, and (6) miscellaneous. There is next discussed diseases due to harmful environment, as subjection to compressed air, temperature extremes, and light modifications. About 100 pages are devoted to occupational diseases as they affect the various organs, special senses and parts, with a page or two upon alcoholism, syphilis, foods, drugs, and tobacco. About 50 pages are devoted to special industries and processes in relation to occupational diseases. The book ends with four appendixes, the first of which is a modification of Sommerfeld and Fischer's "List of Industrial Poisons," in abbreviated form, with certain additions.

The book is rich in references to the literature which is accumulating upon the subject, both American and foreign, and contains abstracts. The author cites many incidents in his own experiences, particularly in connection with his hospital and dispensary practice in New York City.

An idea of the vastness of this subject can be obtained from the fact that as extensive as this book is there are a great many industries and important trade processes which are not touched upon. Others are mentioned only in a partial way; for instance, such trades as those of polishers, buffers, grinders, carpenters, wood-workers, etc.; important trade processes, such as

tinning, galvanizing, brewing, forging, etc.; important industries, such as oil refining, lime burning, confections, ice manufacturing, baking, porcelain-enameled ironware, etc. Again, there is hardly any mention made of the following; chemical workers, rubber manufacturing, dry cleaning, iron and steel furnacing processes, electroplating, etc. In the above respects the index is partly at fault. None of the last 40 pages, composing the appendixes, are contained in the index, while the arrangement adopted, although systematic and clear in the author's mind, renders it difficult to find certain specific information which the appendixes and the book contains. There are many repetitions and a considerable scattering of information, due to overlapping in the plan adopted for arranging the subject-matter. A number of repetitions are also to be seen in the table on pages 198-200.

Inaccuracies of context are few, but some are noticeable, such as the volatilization point for copper (237° F.) on page 169, and the impression that brick and tiles (other than art-ware) are usually lead-glazed, pp. 618-619. There is great confusion between industries and trade processes, as on pages 696-699. This fault, however, pervades practically all statistics, hospital and dispensary records at the present time, and renders them quite worthless as a source of industrial information which might exactly correlate the health hazards of trade processes with the afflictions at hand. One feels that relatively too much space has been devoted to certain subjects—as compressed air illness (32 pages)—to the sacrifice of other important industries and trade processes, such as mining (6 pages), shoemaking (3 pages), and brick and tile manufacture (½ page).

The book is not as well adapted to the needs of the interested manufacturer, the practicing physician, the clinician, and the student of hygiene as it is to the physiologist, toxicologist, and pathologist. The introduction implies that it is the object of the book to meet both classes. It is excellent on occupational diseases, but deficient on many important health hazards, industries, and trade processes.

Columbus, Ohio.

E. R. HAYHURST.

Industrial Home Work in Massachusetts. Labor Bulletin No. 101. (Boston: Bureau of Statistics. 1914. Pp. 183.)

That work at home on factory products is not limited to large cities, nor to the clothing trade, nor to the immigrant population